Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, please replace the former title of the application with the following title:

~~CYTOKINE RECEPTOR CHAIN~~

ANTIBODIES TO HUMAN IL-13bc AND METHODS OF THEIR USE IN INHIBITING IL-13 BINDING

On page 1, please replace the current priority information that follows the title with the following priority information:

C1

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/846,344, filed on April 30, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,268,480, which is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/609,572, filed March 1, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,710,023.

On page 5, please replace the paragraph at lines 18-22 with the following replacement paragraph:

C2

Methods are also provided for potentiating IL-13 activity, which comprise combining a protein having IL-13 activity with ~~a protein of claim 11~~ an isolated IL-13bc protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acids 22 to 334;

(c) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acids 357 to 383;

(d) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4;

(e) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4 from amino acids 26 to 341;

(f) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4 from amino acids 363 to 380; and

(g) fragments of (a)-(f) having a biological activity of the IL-13 receptor binding chain; and

contacting such combination with a cell expressing at least one chain of IL-13R other than IL-13bc. Preferably, the contacting step is performed by administering a therapeutically effective amount of such combination to a mammalian subject.

On page 6, please replace the paragraph at lines 3-11 with the following replacement paragraph:

SEQ ID NO:1 provides the nucleotide sequence of a cDNA encoding the murine IL-13bc. SEQ ID NO:2 provides the predicted ~~the~~ amino acid sequence of the receptor chain, including a putative signal sequence from amino acids 1-21. The mature murine IL-13bc is believed to have the sequence of amino acids 22-383 of SEQ ID NO:2. The mature murine receptor chain has at least three distinct domains: an extracellular domain (comprising approximately amino acids 22-334 of SEQ ID NO:2), a transmembrane domain (comprising approximately amino acids 335-356 of SEQ ID NO:2) and an intracellular domain (comprising approximately amino acids 357-383 of SEQ ID NO:2).